

Attorney-General

Minister for Economic Development

Minister for the Environment

Minister for Trade and Export Growth

Associate Minister of Finance



04 MAR 2019

Matt Nippert
Matt.Nippert@nzme.co.nz

Dear Matt

Thank you for your email of 1 February 2019 requesting, under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act), the following information:

- 1) Any records kept of discussions at the side-meeting between the Minister and Sir Peter Jackson and Fran Walsh at the NZ Story event in August 2018.
- 2) A copy of the Minister's diary for the day of the above meeting.

Please find attached a copy of the meeting note from that meeting.

The Outlook diary I use is a planning tool and not designed or organised for publication purposes. For example, the diary contains travel details and personal information regarding myself and my staff. The diary also contains entries that relate to my role as a Member of Parliament which are not covered by the Official Information Act. Under section 16(1)(e) of the Act I am providing a summary of the contents of the ministerial diary which omits travel details, personal information and entries which relate to my role as a Member of Parliament.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Parker".

Hon David Parker
Minister for Economic Development

File note: Meeting with Peter Jackson Weds 15 August 2018

Date: 16 August

From: Mike Jaspers

Attendees: PM, David Parker, Mike Jaspers, Sir Peter Jackson, and producer Clare Olssen

Jackson requested the meeting to discuss recent media reports that the govt was weighing up whether there should be a cap on payments made to film production companies under the New Zealand Screen Production Grant scheme. This followed publication of the MBIE evaluation of the grant.

Jackson made the point that if the govt was serious about the film industry there needed to be an incentive scheme which created a level playing field with other countries. He was particularly concerned that the NZ scheme kept the country competitive with Australia. Foreign film makers see NZ and Australia as similar location choices. He presented Minister Parker with a list of countries and their incentive schemes.

Jackson acknowledged that writing big cheques for Hollywood might seem unfair, but the industry was unique, this was how it operated and the benefits to NZ were considerable.

Parker said he well understood the need to be competitive and that it was an all or nothing situation – he mused about how a cap could work and whether that would be possible to introduce. He reassured Jackson that no decision would be made without proper consultation. He reiterated that he was not particularly attracted to an annual cap, but pointed out the political risks around subsidising one particular industry over another. However, he underlined the importance the govt attached to creative industries.

Jackson said a cap was not necessary given the industry was only capable of two to three major productions a year. A cap would only serve to cap the potential income the country could earn.

Clare pointed out that the MBIE report, the Matt Nippert NZ Herald story and the Minister's comments had been picked up in Hollywood and was causing uncertainty – "mixed messages"

Jackson also expressed concern about the NZ Film Commission's funding which had not increased for some years – a decade? This was hampering the commission's ability to nurture talent, and find the next "Jackson," stressed importance of finding talented kiwis to follow in his footsteps, by helping grow the industry. Previous govt had ignored this issue which had frustrated him.

PM talked about a need for a 10 year strategy for the industry which was well received by Jackson.

Jackson and Clare were reassured by the PM and Minister's overall comments and support for the industry.

David Parker Diary Summary

15 August 2018

Date	Scheduled Time	Meeting	Location	With	Portfolio
15/08/2018	08:00 - 09:00	Meeting with Hons Mahuta, Clark, Faafai, Jones, Shaw, Sage, O'Connor and officials	Beehive	Hons Mahuta, Clark, Faafai, Jones, Shaw, Sage, O'Connor and officials	Environment
15/08/2018	09:00 - 09:30	Meeting with Ministry of Justice officials	Beehive	Ministry of Justice officials	Attorney General
15/08/2018	09:30 - 10:00	Meeting with PCO officials	Beehive	PCO officials	Attorney General
15/08/2018	10:00 - 10:45	Meeting with MFAT officials	Beehive	MFAT officials	Trade and Export Growth
15/08/2018	11:00 - 12:30	Cabinet Committee	Beehive	Committee members	All
15/08/2018	15:00 - 15:30	Meeting with CE and staff from NZ Steel and MFAT officials	Beehive	CE, staff from NZ Steel and MFAT officials	Trade and Export Growth
15/08/2018	15:30 - 16:30	Meeting with Solicitor General	Beehive	Solicitor General	Attorney General
15/08/2018	17:00 - 18:30	Launch of NZ Story with PM, Minister O'Connor (Note: 5pm- 5:30pm Meeting with Peter Jackson & Fran re: Screen Grant with PM)	Park Road Post Production, Miramar, Wellington	Event attendees	Economic Development
15/08/2018	19:30 - 20:00	Meeting with Maori Caucus	Beehive	Maori Caucus	Environment
15/08/2018	20:30 - 20:45	Meeting with Chair of Justice Select Committee	Beehive	Chair of Justice Select Committee	Attorney General